## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 IO-13 SSM-03 /081 W

-----018640 241548Z /43

O 241530Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7324 INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PGOV, CY

SUBJECT: CARTER MESSAGE TO SADAT

- 1. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, ALL NEWSPAPERS AND CYPRUS BROADCASTING CORPORATION (CBC) HAD RECEIVED MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY (MENA) REPORT ON CARTER MESSAGE TO SADAT AND WERE READY WITH STORIES WHEN WE SOUGHT TO DEFUSE BY ISSUING PRESS RELEASE OF THE OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE COMMENT. AS COMMENT BECAME AVAILLE ONLY SHORTLY BEFORE PAPERS WENT TO PRESS, USIS CALLED PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER AND ALL MEDIA AND DELIVERED STATEMENT ORALLY. WRITTEN VERSION DISTRIBUTED EARLY MORNING FRIDAY.
- 2. RESULT WAS A QUALIFIED SUCCESS. CBC HELD BACK UNTIL EMBASSY RELEASE BECAME AVAILABLE AND FIRST BROADCAST STORY ON 10:00 PM RADIO NEWS, GIVING PROMINENCE TO WHITE HOUSE COMMENT OVER MENA STORY. SIMILAR COVERAGE GIVEN STORY ON LATE TV NEWS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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3. TREATMENT IN MORNING DAILIES WAS VARIED. ALL PAPERS CARRIED EMBASSY RELEASE ON BACK PAGE, WHICH IS STANDARD PROMINENT LOCATION FOR LATE BREAKING NEWS. IN NON-COMMUNIST, PRO-GOVERNMENT DAILIES EMBASSY RELEASE OVERSHADOWED MENA ITEM. COMMUNIST HARAVGHI CHOSE TO INTERPRET WHITE HOUSE COMMENT AS CONFIRMING MENA REPORT, AND SOCIALIST TA NEA

CARRIED MENA REPORT UNDER BANNER HEAD WITH EMBASSY RELEASE BURIED AT BOTTOM OF STORY. RIGHT-WING OPPOSITION SIMERINI USED SEVEN-COLUMN FRONT PAGE HEADLINE OF MENA STORY WIH WHITE HOUSE COMMENT GIVEN MODEST TREATMENT BACK PAGE. INDEPENDENT AGON GAVE FRONT PAGE HEADLINE TO EMBASSY RELEASE.

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## Message Attributes

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**SAS ID**: 3487474 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CARTER MESSAGE TO SADAT

TAGS: PGOV, PPDC, SOPN, CY, US, (CARTER, JIMMY), (SADAT, ANWAR)

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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